

Message Text

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41

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCA-01 /008 W
----- 075983

P 101141Z MAR 76
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3837

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STADIS//////////

FOR AF/EX KRYZA AND KENNEDY: SCA WALENTYNOWICZ AND ARIAS

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, CGEN, NI

SUBJ: LAGOS CONSULAR STAFFING

REF : STATE 051201

1. DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN AWARE SINCE EARLY FEBRUARY THAT FSO DAVID LYON WOULD DEPART POST IN MID-MARCH FOR LANGUAGE TRAINING. REFTEL ADVISES THAT REPLACEMENT CANNOT BE EXPECTED BEFORE JUNE 1, LEAVING GAP OF MORE THAN TWO MONTHS. THREE CONSULAR OFFICERS AT THIS POST WORK SIXTY-PLUS HOURS A WEEK. SPRING STUDENT VISA RUSH BEGINS LATE APRIL AND BUILDS THROUGH JUNE, JULY, PEAKING IN FALL RUSH OF AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER. RELATIVE LULL OF FEBRUARY, MARCH AND EARLY APRIL BADLY NEEDED TO PUT SECTION IN ORDER AFTER DECEMBER RUSH. ROVER NEEDED FOR DUTY AT VISA COUNTER, BUT DOES NOT SATISFY NEED TO HAVE FULL-TIME OFFICER IN PLACE AND TRAINED BY MID-APRIL.

2. EMBASSY AT THIS MOMENT IS TRYING DETERMINE HOW TO STRENGTHEN CONSULAR SECTION TO COPE WITH WORKLOAD EXPLOSION WHICH REFLECTED IN CONSULAR PACKETS AND OTHER REPORTS OF PAST SEVERAL YEARS. WE ARE IN NO POSITION TO ACCEPT EVEN A TEMPORARY REDUCTION IN CONSULAR STAFF.

3. IN VIEW HARD FACTS CITED ABOVE, AND IN ORDER MAINTAIN MORALE OF REMAINING TWO OFFICERS IN BELEAGUERED CONSULAR SECTION, WE BELIEVE IT IMPERATIVE THAT AF/EX TAKE PROMPT AND POSITIVE STEPS TO ENSURE LYON'S REPLACEMENT IS ON BOARD BY APRIL 1 AT LATEST.

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EMBASSY LEASED HOUSING AVAILABLE.

4. REPLY REQUESTED.
EASUM

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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